YALE'S GREAT BOWL COULD SWALLOW OLD ROME'S COLISEUM

Huge Stadium To Be Opened Saturday Will Accommodate 70,000 Persons.

SIXTY-EIGHT thousand persons and more will watch the most elaborately staged football contest in the history of the sport, at New Haven on Saturday. The Yale "bowl" will open with this game, and the New Haven players are going to fight for a victory, while Harvard seeks revenge for the humiliation it suffered when the Cambridge stadium was opened in 1903. Yale's immense equipment will be as great a drawing card as the game itself to the graduates, who have themselves contributed to the "greatest monument ever made to a single sport." Prepared to seat half again as many people as the Harvard and Princeton stadia at their fullest capacity, capable of holding the Roman Coliseum within itself and filling only up to the entrance gates, and nearly twice as large as the Coliseum at Pompeii, on which it is modelled most closely, the new Yale "bowl" must be classed by itself. And yet to all appearances there will not be room enough for all who have a right to seats. The total number of applications filed has been over 70,000, far exceeding the expectations of the most optimistic and removing the last argument of the pessimists. This year's Harvard contest under these new conditions will be such as New Haven has never witnessed before, and the city is taxed in every way to care for the coming visitors.

The "bowl" is the offering to the university of the committee of twenty-one chosen in 1911 to improve Yale's athletic equipment, and the expense of nearly $500,000 has been met entirely by graduate and undergraduate subscription. It is a truly Yale institution, and, although there are among the graduates those who look with distrust upon the commercialization of college athletics and the adaptability of the "bowl" to one sport only, it will open with nearly the unanimous approval of all connected with the New Haven university. The original plans were drawn by C. A. Ferry, of the Sheffield Scientific School, class of '71, and, though altered as developments demanded, they have been followed in substance.

The structure is in the form of an oval and of the embankment type, new in this country, but practically the same as used in Pompeii. The length over all of the egg-shaped bowl is 950 feet, as compared with 615 feet for the same dimension of the Roman Coliseum, and 444 feet for that at Pompeii. The width is 750 feet, 240 feet greater than the Roman structure and more than twice as wide as the "bowl's" ancestor, the Pompeiian Coliseum. As for the material necessary for work at the Yale field, 20,000 cubic yards of concrete, 200,000 cubic yards of earthwork and 900,000 pounds of steel have been used. Employed almost unceasingly since July, 1913, an army of workers have built these materials into stands which will seat 61,000 people in comfortable wooden seats, half of which will be permanent, and will allow the remainder of the vast crowd to watch from the promenade about the upper embankment.

The earth above the playing level was scooped out and piled up to form the embankment around the gridiron, making the field twenty-seven feet below the level of the surrounding land, the top of the embankment being twenty-seven feet above. From the field to the highest seat is fifty-four feet. The outside of the bank is held in place by a heavy concrete retaining wall. The sitting structure is composed of reinforced concrete slabs laid directly on the earth embankment, showing the difference between the Yale stadium and most other stadia in this country, where the rows of seats are supported by columns. The advantage of the method adopted is obvious, as all danger of accidents in which spectators are thrown to the ground by the failure of the supports is wiped out. In the tops of the slabs are formed concrete steps on which are placed wooden seats, by which method no one is forced to sit on cold concrete. The seats are of original design, and great pains have been taken to make them comfortable. The planks are not straight, but are curved on top, and the backs are rounded off so that no sharp edges are felt anywhere. Every piece of wood is quarter sawed, to avoid splintering. The wood has been preserved by oiling with specially prepared Chinese tung oil. These seats will be permanent, but as the builders must allow for settling of the embankment during the spring they have been installed only half way up the sides, the remaining rows being provided with ordinary wooden benches, installed for this year's game.

THIRTY TUNNELS TO CONDUCT THE PUBLIC INTO THE CHALICE OF SPORT.

Thirty tunnels are necessary to provide for entrance, and they have been built to lead from the outside level to points half way up the banks of seats. They are seven feet wide, and in addition to the light from outside they will be brilliantly illuminated with electricity. Yet these are not enough to pour out 70,000 people after the contests, and two larger tunnels have been installed which lead to the level of the field. By these players and officials will enter, and after the game the supporters of the victorious team will march out when the snake dance is finished. It will be through these tubes, fifteen feet in width, that a special corps of "white wings" will drive in winter to carry away the deposits of snow, and in summer to clean the rubbish out of the stands. The wall surrounding the playing field is four feet high and is surmounted by a heavy concrete parapet of simple design and a similar wall is carried around the openings along the tunnels.

Covering the bottom of the "bowl" and extending to the curving sides about it, the grass of the playing field looks like a huge velvet rug of luxuriant green, three acres in area. The grass is in perfect condition, growing out of rich, solid soil, and is under constant care, being watered and mowed in part every day. In early summer the sod was put in place, and the method by which it was "built up" represents the best system which could be devised from careful study of other fields. The "straight edge" was used in placing every piece of sod, the measurements being made from stakes placed fifteen feet apart, with lines connecting them.

The field is built directly on the natural sand foundation, with a first layer of eight inches of black loam forced down solidly by a five-ton steam roller. Another eight inches of loam was then put on and rolled, and all inequalities which the most careful investigation revealed were removed. A special fertilizer humus from a natural deposit in Massachusetts was spread thickly over the field before setting the sod in place. The turf averages a little over two inches in thickness, so that all told eighteen inches of loam lies above the original ground on Yale field, making it a matter of little wonder that the result is a perfectly smooth, ideal playing surface.

This field on which the big Yale football games will be played measures 300 by 500 feet, its area being nearly three times as great as that of the Roman Coliseum, and even more than three times as great as the field in the Coliseum at Pompeii. And yet every play on the Yale field will be easily visible from each seat in the vast stands, although if under the goal posts at the further end of the gridiron the spectacle may be watched by people an eighth of a mile away from the play!

Assigning nineteen inches of reserved space each to 61,000 people in seats which if placed side by side would reach more than eighteen miles is the task which lies entirely in the hands of the Yale ticket department, whose modest quarters are in the basement of Durfee Hall, a sophomore dormitory. Everard Thompson is the man at the head of this department. He has spent eight years in the development of a system which is simple and effective.

When the last application blank was dropped into the receiving basket Saturday, October 31, at 6 o'clock the total number of tickets applied for by Yale graduates and undergraduates was 46,570, and Harvard, with its 25,000 allotment, was yet to be heard from! That made a possible, and a probable, total of 71,570 ticket applications without any public sale. There are, to be accurate, 60,859 seats in the Yale "bowl," which was built along much larger proportions than necessary, in the opinion of many, but with the possibility of being extended to even greater capacity owing to the farsightedness of a few.

These facts have made the ticket situation this year present new difficulties. It is true that in England for some of the football games they have larger crowds, but they are not reserved seat audiences. This crowd is twice the size of the average world's series attendance. Here every man must have his tickets in his pocket, sent by registered mail a week before the Harvard game. It is the largest ticket distribution ever attempted in the history of the world, and it has been handled with apparent smoothness by a corps which consists of undergraduates alone. There are no outside clerks. Men in the university who are earning their own education are given positions up to capacity. They are trained, and as they become fitted each man rises to superintend new clerks under him. The money in salaries for the big game distribution which goes into the hands of students amounts to $2,000.

After the arrival of a ticket application in the Yale office it can be traced within thirty seconds and the owner informed regarding its fate. The application blanks for the Princeton and Harvard games were sent out to every Yale graduate, and in the last four days of the time allowed they poured into the office at the rate of five thousand a day. Each application envelope is opened, the money removed, and a check made on the outside. An acknowledgment card is sent to every man who applies for tickets, and the fact is noted on his envelope. The applications are then grouped in pigeonholes, and it is here that the work is made more difficult if applications are pinned together, a course which is allowed, but is discouraged by the association, owing to the extra work it involves. Each application is then put with forty-nine others among which it is ranked into a pasteboard box which stands among one of six sets. When all are registered a number of boxes in the same division are taken out, shaken in a hat, and the first drawn receives first allotment, a method which gives no advantage to early applicants. A "dummy" book is kept from year to year, in which the names of applicants are registered, their classes and the tickets they receive. When the number of seats applied for from each class is known "dope" sheets are prepared and a blank of the field is taken. With various colors general sections are drawn off for particular sets of applications, showing pictorially where the various classes will be located.

HOW THE COLLEGE MAN DEALS WITH THE SPECULATORS.

In case a ticket is found in the hands of speculators its section is found on the field map. In this way the class to which it was awarded is discovered. Then, by reference to the boxes belonging to that class, the individual to whom the ticket was sent is revealed within a few seconds after the complaint is made. That unfortunate man then goes on the black list unless he can give a satisfactory explanation, and his future ticket rights are forfeited. Remarkably few tickets have fallen into the hands of speculators, however, and the black list is not as long as might be expected. When all the tickets have been allotted and registered in the index they are ready for the mail.

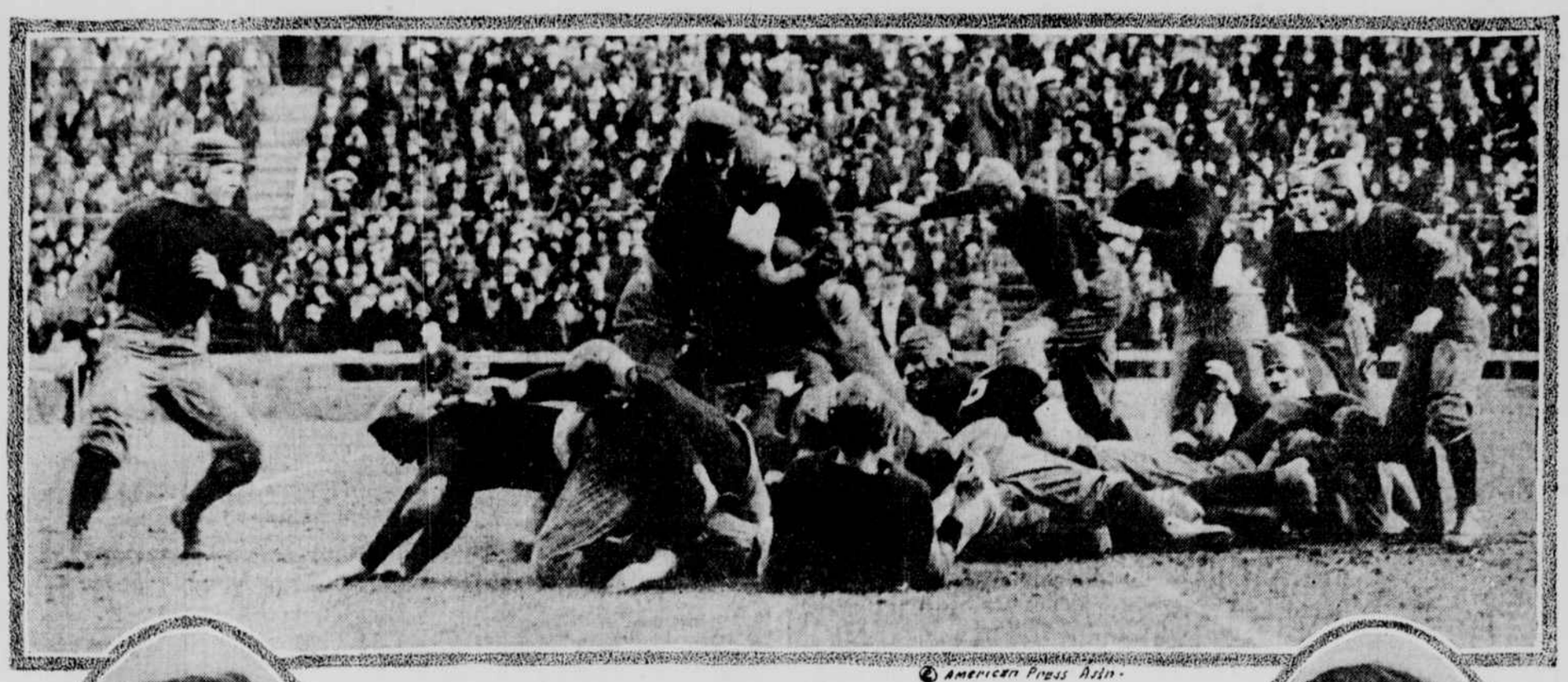
Every large postoffice in the East makes extra preparations for the great mass of registered mail poured in before the Yale-Harvard game, mail which must be delivered within a very short space of time. Graduates are unrelenting toward the mail clerks of their own towns, pressing for the arrival of the cherished tickets. In Hartford, Conn., for example, there will be more than four hundred men this week looking for the arrival of tickets from New Haven. New York City gets a couple of thousand of the registered envelopes, and the proportion is carried into many other Eastern cities.

HANDLING THE MAIL DURING THE FOOTBALL SEASON.

Upon the Yale postoffice, a branch of the New Haven office, has fallen the duty of starting the tickets as they are turned over by the ticket department on their way to all parts of the country. The first year that the Yale branch office did this work was 1900, when 5,000 registered letters containing tickets were dispatched. Last year the number handled was about 14,000, and this week the figures will reach between 18,000 and 20,000 registered letters, showing the growth in the audiences at the games. The envelopes containing the tickets are brought into the postoffice from the ticket department across the street in trays or baskets by the hundreds or thousands at a lot. Postmaster Thomas Clark's force must then make sure that each envelope is under weight, is properly sealed and is marked with a return request. Three different postmarks must be made on each envelope, and a number given as required of registered packages, with the record made in the books. A special list of numbers is prepared for football tickets, so that they can be traced easily. Since 1900 there is not a single case of the loss of tickets which can be assigned to the postal shipping department! The regular force, in addition to a 500 increase in its daily work, handles the ticket sending alone, and a total of sixty days of overtime work for one month in this office is on record during football season. The letters are distributed by cities, states and districts to thousands of other postoffices waiting for the arrival of this extra mail.

The pouring in of 70,000 people means an increase of 50 per cent in New Haven's population for at least a day, and to care for these people as well as to transmit them to one point before a certain hour is a monstrous task. The New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad is preparing to handle the biggest passenger traffic movement in its history for this game, and expects that 35,000 people will enter and leave New Haven by train. Twenty special trains will run from the Grand Central Station at fifteen-minute intervals, beginning at 8:10 o'clock on Saturday morning, and fifteen special trains will run from Boston. Information booths will be installed in the New Haven station, and no switching of regular trains will be allowed there during the day.

An army of 450 men will act as ushers for the game, in addition to which there will be ninety ticket takers, ninety inspectors and sixty guards, to say nothing of the special police force on duty. A man will be stationed at each entrance with a megaphone to aid in moving the crowd.



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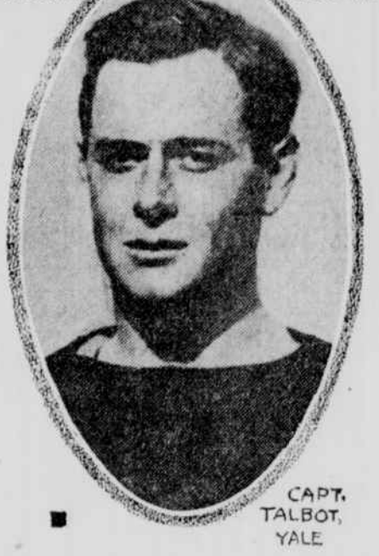
CAPT. BRICKLEY, HARVARD



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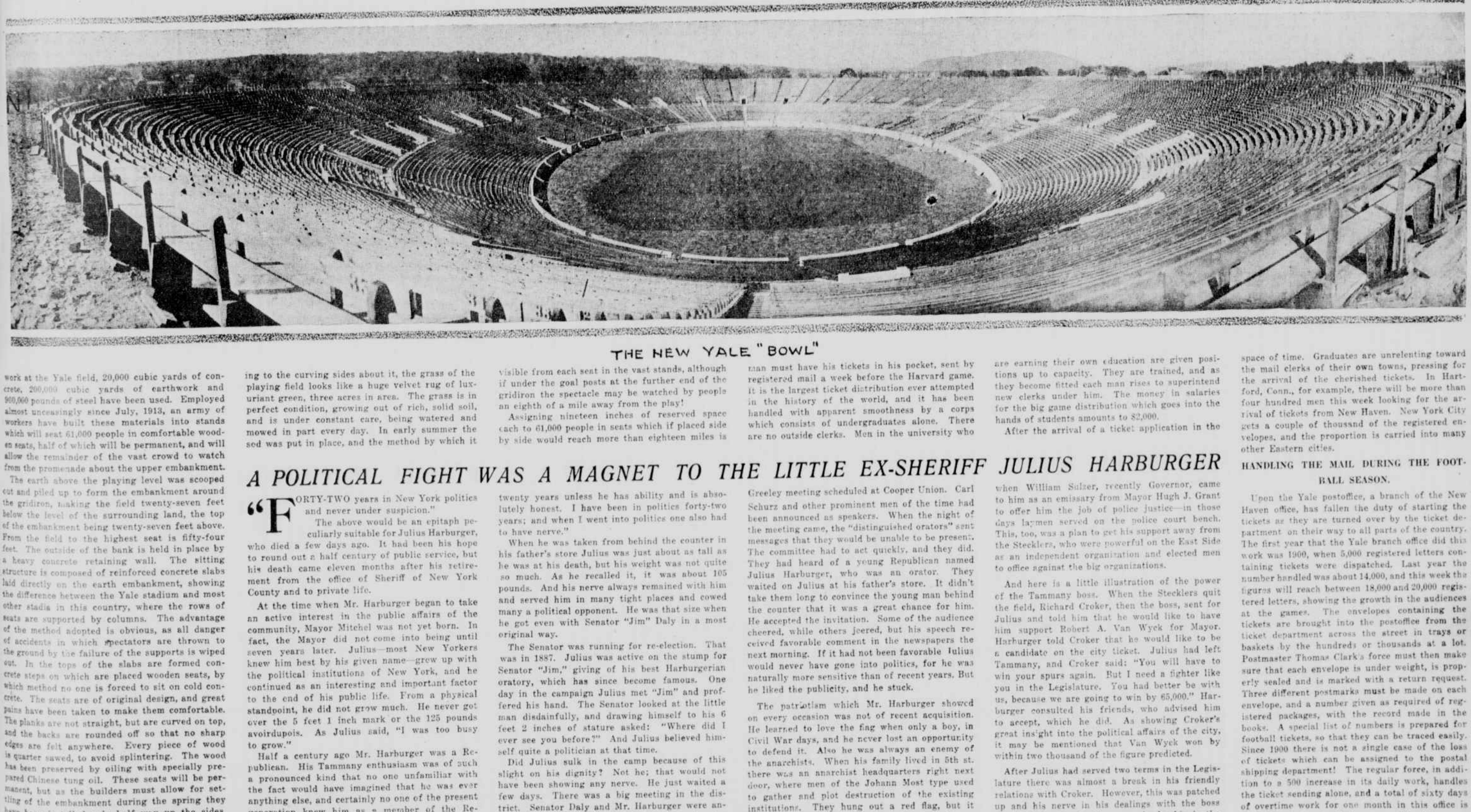

THE NEW YALE "BOWL"

A POLITICAL FIGHT WAS A MAGNET TO THE LITTLE EX-SHERIFF JULIUS HARBURGER

"FORTY-TWO years in New York politics and never under suspicion."

The above would be an epitaph peculiarly suitable for Julius Harburger, who died a few days ago. It had been his hope to round out a half century of public service, but his death came eleven months after his retirement from the office of Sheriff of New York County and to private life.

At the time when Mr. Harburger began to take an active interest in the public affairs of the community, Mayor Mitchel was not yet born. In fact, the Mayor did not come into being until seven years later. Julius—most New Yorkers knew him best by his given name—grew up with the political institutions of New York, and he continued as an interesting and important factor to the end of his public life. From a physical standpoint, he did not grow much. He never got over the 5 feet 1 inch mark or the 125 pounds avoirdupois. As Julius said, "I was too busy to grow."

Half a century ago Mr. Harburger was a Republican. His Tammany enthusiasm was of such a pronounced kind that no one unfamiliar with the fact would have imagined that he was ever anything else, and certainly no one of the present generation knew him as a member of the Republican party.

As for the fighting element in his make-up, he was just "inculcated and inoculated" with that spirit on his very initiation into the political maelstrom, for those were the fighting days when Julius Harburger went into the public arena; those were the rough days of the strong arm in politics, when fists counted more than facts and bullets often took the place of ballots. J. H. carried on his body the mark of one combat, and in his mind the memories of numerous narrow escapes from death.

Before he went into politics Julius Harburger was something of a "trimmer"—although not in the sense that the term is understood to-day in politics. He was in the trimming business with his father on the East Side, in the same neighborhood where he was born and which was his home all his life. And talking about "trimmers" it should be told right here that Julius Harburger did not agree with the California University professor who declared that a man could not be in politics for twenty years without being a "trimmer"—which is sometimes an alternative term for grafter. "It's simply preposterous," quoth Sheriff Harburger. "The professor has the wrong angle. The truth is that a man cannot remain in politics twenty years unless he has ability and is absolutely honest. I have been in politics forty-two years; and when I went into politics one also had to have nerve."

When he was taken from behind the counter in his father's store Julius was just about as tall as he was at his death, but his weight was not quite so much. As he recalled it, it was about 105 pounds. And his nerve always remained with him and served him in many tight places and cowed many a political opponent. He was that size when he got even with Senator "Jim" Daly in a most original way.

The Senator was running for re-election. That was in 1887. Julius was active on the stump for Senator "Jim," giving of his best Harburgerian oratory, which has since become famous. One day in the campaign Julius met "Jim" and proffered his hand. The Senator looked at the little man disdainfully, and drawing himself to his 6 feet 2 inches of stature asked: "Where did I ever see you before?" And Julius believed himself quite a politician at that time.

Did Julius sulk in the camp because of this slight on his dignity? Not he; that would not have been showing any nerve. He just waited a few days. There was a big meeting in the district. Senator Daly and Mr. Harburger were announced to speak in the same hall. Now, Senator "Jim" was not much of an orator, and he had one set speech which he used throughout the campaign. Julius, whose active memory served him throughout his life, had heard that speech and memorized it.

At this meeting Mr. Harburger was introduced to speak before the Senator, who was held in reserve as the "big card" and also to hold the crowd. Julius went right ahead and delivered the same stereoptyped speech that Senator "Jim" had been delivering through the district, and which he was prepared to "get off" that night. Julius made a hit. As for the Senator, what he was able to patch together when his turn came was delivered in an incoherent manner and his effort fell flat. So far as he was concerned the meeting was a failure. Senator "Jim" remembered Julius ever after.

The first man Julius campaigned and voted for was Horace Greeley, as the Liberal Republican candidate for President. That was in 1872. The publicity that kept him before the people of New York for many years, and to which he was never averse, was the factor that induced him to enter actively into politics.

This is the way it happened: There was a Greeley meeting scheduled at Cooper Union. Carl Schurz and other prominent men of the time had been announced as speakers. When the night of the meeting came, the "distinguished orators" sent messages that they would be unable to be present. The committee had to act quickly, and they did. They had heard of a young Republican named Julius Harburger, who was an orator. They waited on Julius at his father's store. It didn't take them long to convince the young man behind the counter that it was a great chance for him. He accepted the invitation. Some of the audience cheered, while others jeered, but his speech received favorable comment in the newspapers the next morning. If it had not been favorable Julius would never have gone into politics, for he was naturally more sensitive than of recent years. But he liked the publicity, and he stuck.

The patriotism which Mr. Harburger showed on every occasion was not of recent acquisition. He learned to love the flag when only a boy, in Civil War days, and he never lost an opportunity to defend it. Also he was always an enemy of the anarchists. When his family lived in 5th st. there was an anarchist headquarters right next door, where men of the Johann Most type used to gather and plot destruction of the existing institutions. They hung out a red flag, but it was never noticed much because Julius would use his spare pennies in the purchase of American flags and bunting, and drape his house so elaborately with these that the red flag was outshone.

Julius's home was near the Bowery, known then as the "toughest" district anywhere. He showed his mettle one night in the midst of a bitter campaign when he defied a crowd at a Bowery meeting to make him quit speaking, as had been threatened. The hall was used as a pool and billiard room when not used for political purposes. Julius mounted one of the tables and with a cue in one hand and a billiard ball in the other he defied the plug uglies to break up the meeting. He "got away" with it.

Julius Harburger knew John Kelly, leader of Tammany Hall before Richard Croker. P. Henry Dugro, justice of the Supreme Court, recommended Julius to Kelly for an appointment. At that time Julius was working with the Stecklers in opposition to Tammany, and he told Kelly that he would not desert his friends for any job. Kelly was greatly impressed with the loyalty shown by Mr. Harburger to his friends.

Another time when Julius refused office was when William Sulzer, recently Governor, came to him as an emissary from Mayor Hugh J. Grant to offer him the job of police justice—in those days laymen served on the police court bench. This, too, was a plan to get his support away from the Stecklers, who were powerful on the East Side as an independent organization and elected men to office against the big organizations.

And here is a little illustration of the power of the Tammany boss. When the Stecklers quit the field, Richard Croker, then the boss, sent for Julius and told him that he would like to have him support Robert A. Van Wyck for Mayor. Harburger told Croker that he would like to be a candidate on the city ticket. Julius had left Tammany, and Croker said: "You will have to win your spurs again. But I need a fighter like you in the Legislature. You had better be with us, because we are going to win by 65,000." Harburger consulted his friends, who advised him to accept, which he did. As showing Croker's great insight into the political affairs of the city, it may be mentioned that Van Wyck won by within two thousand of the figure predicted.

After Julius had served two terms in the Legislature there was almost a break in his friendly relations with Croker. However, this was patched up and his nerve in his dealings with the boss was rewarded by the Tammany leadership in the 10th Assembly District.

That Charles F. Murphy is to-day the leader of Tammany is largely due to the agitation of Julius within the Wigwam. It began when Murphy, Haffen and McMahon were controlling the organization as a triumvirate. A special meeting was called to ratify the arrangement, and Julius loudly voiced his objection and suggested that Murphy be the sole leader. Julius was the only one who voted for the single head idea at the meeting. Six months later John F. Carroll, a close friend of Croker, conceived the idea of making himself leader of Tammany Hall. A meeting was held at the Occidental Hotel, on the Bowery, at which several powerful Tammany men were present, including the late "Big Tim" Sullivan. It was decided at that meeting that Murphy should be made the boss.

When the full committee met in Tammany Hall, a few weeks later, Julius, in one of his flowery speeches, placed the name of Charles F. Murphy before the assemblage, and the plan went through with a Tammany whoop, dealing a death blow to the ambitions of Carroll and at the same time to the triumvirate idea of leadership.